

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A soft suitcase including shaped lid and base forming sections, wherein the lid and base forming sections are moulded and are shape wise maintaining in the absence of any internal/external perimeter framing and reinforcing side, base and back panels, wherein the lid and base forming sections are hinged connected together by ~~means of a~~ Zip zip fastener arrangement that provides both an opening and closing facility for the suitcase and additionally selective expansion of a storage volume of the suitcase, wherein a pair of wheels is provided at one end of the base forming section, there being one such wheel for each corner of said end, and wherein the lid and base forming sections comprise foamed plastics material.

2. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Currently amended) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein said selective expansion of the storage volume of the suitcase provided by the Zip zip fastener arrangement incorporates first and second separately operable Zip fasteners, the first Zip zip fastener providing the opening and closing facility and the second Zip zip fastener providing the selective expansion, and wherein a gusset is provided between zipping portions of said second Zip zip fastener that is associated with the selective expansion, the Zip zip fastener arrangement being such that the volume of the suitcase can be selectively increased by appropriate operation of said second Zip zip fastener.

27. (Currently amended) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 26, wherein a multiple volume expansion facility is provided by additional Zip zip fasteners incorporated in the Zip zip fastener arrangement, each additional Zip zip fastener having associated therewith an expansion gusset, whereby operation of a Zip zip fastener associated with a particular gusset enables an associated volume expansion of the suitcase.

28. (Previously presented) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lid forming and base forming sections incorporate corrugations so positioned as to counteract wrinkling at corners of the mouldings arising from the moulding thereof.

29. (Currently amended) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein the pair of wheels is a first pair of wheels and further comprising a second pair of wheels provided at an end of the lid forming section corresponding to the end of the base forming section at which the first pair of wheels is located.

30. (Previously presented) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 29, wherein the first and second pair of wheels are so located on the respective lid and base forming sections as to lie at corners of a rectangle.

31. (Currently amended) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, further comprising piping configured to provide stiffness to the ~~Zip~~ zip fastener arrangement.

32. (Previously presented) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 31, wherein the piping is stiffened internally.

33. (Currently amended) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein the zip fastener arrangement has zip fastener portions and further comprising piping between the ~~Zip~~ zip fastener arrangement and the lid forming section, between ~~Zip~~ the zip fastener portions of the ~~Zip~~ zip fastener arrangement, and between the ~~Zip~~ zip fastener arrangement and the base forming section.

34. (Currently amended) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~foam~~ foamed plastics material is EVA.

35. (Previously presented) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base forming section has an opening and further comprising a towing handle arrangement located in the opening.

36. (Previously presented) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 1, wherein each wheel of the pair of wheels are included as part of a respective wheel assembly of a pair of wheel assemblies and wherein the base forming section has a pair of indentations to define mounting locations for the pair of wheel assemblies.

37. (Previously presented) The soft suitcase as claimed in claim 36, further comprising a second pair of wheel assemblies and wherein the lid forming section has a second pair of indentations to define mounting locations for the second pair of wheel assemblies.